

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 06613 031447Z

65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 EB-07 IGA-01 /070 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4967

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DEPT PASS AID

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR US EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN COMPLAINTS RE MISLEADING PRESS ARTICLES

REF: CAIRO 6549

1. FAHMY TELEPHONED ME THIS AFTERNOON TO EXPRESS SOME CONCERN ABOUT RECENT MISLEADING ARTICLES IN AMERICAN PRESS ON EGYPTIAN ECONOMIC SITUATION AND ALLEGED INABILITY TO USE US AID. HE SPECIFIED THE FOISIE STORY AND ONE OTHER WHOSE AUTHOR HE COULD NOT RECALL. FAHMY DENIED THE FACTS IN THOSE STORIES AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THEY WERE ATTRIBUTED TO AID OFFICIALS. I ASSURED FAHMY THAT WE, TOO, RECOGNIZE FOISIE STORY AS DISTORTION OF THE FACTS. NO AID/CAIRO OFFICIAL HAS TOLD PRESS GOE UNABLE USE US AID. ON CONTRARY, WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF US AID TO EGYPT'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL HAVE REGULARLY WORKED WITH US ON THAT BASIS. I ADDED FOISIE HAS IN FACT BEEN CALLED IN BY PAO TO STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT AND CONVEY OUR DISPLEASURE WITH THIS DISTORTION OF THE FACTS. FAHMY SEEMED SATISFIED.

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2. IN TALK WITH PAO, FOISIE CLAIMS SOME OF INFORMATION

AND CRITICAL COMMENTS ON GOE PERFORMANCE IN STORY
OBTAINED FROM MIN ECON COOPERATION OFFICIAL, BUT TWO
PARAGRAPHS QUOTING THAT OFFICIAL WERE DROPPED FROM
HERALD TRIBUNE STORY. THIS MAY AT LEAST PARTIALLY
ACCOUNT FOR FACT THAT ALL CRITICISM IN STORY SEEMED TO
BE ATTRIBUTED TO AID OFFICIALS.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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